

Wilde Conceded Big Handicap  
In First Encounter In America

# The Times' Complete Sport Page

British Built Himself Up In  
Meeting Sharkey Above Limit

## LOOKING 'EM OVER

BY LOUIS A. DOUGHER

Jimmy Wilde, while taking his defeat by Jack Sharkey, the New York bantam, like a real sportsman, nevertheless has an excellent argument for his failure to shine on his first appearance in an American ring. In order to come within the requirements of the Wisconsin law, he had to put on enough weight to come within ten pounds of Sharkey's weight. Sharkey made 116 pounds at 3 o'clock, according to the law. Wilde's weight was 107½ pounds. Later, to cover a side forfeit, Sharkey made 116 at 7 o'clock. Thus the little Britisher gave away almost nine pounds.

On first blush, one might think that Wilde did well, considering his opponent was heavier, but as a matter of fact, Wilde would have been more like himself could he have entered the ring weighing about 101 or 102. This is his customary weight. Building himself up, as all ring trainers know well, caused him to lose much of his speed. Without his speed the Briton found himself unable to keep up with the fast pace set by Sharkey. The New Yorker, while anything but a hard hitter, is one of the speediest little men in the ring, and he kept on top of Wilde all the way. Fighting on the defense and lacking his usual speed, Wilde made anything but a good impression upon the fans. But it will be interesting to see what he does in his next bout, providing he is permitted to box at 102 pounds.

It is also worthy of comment that the ten-round route was not to Wilde's liking. In England he has been accustomed to going twenty rounds. Compelled to speed up and finding that impossible with his increased sluggishness, the world's fly-weight champion was helpless. He put up a game exhibition, though, according to all accounts. He was willing to slug, too, to toe, whenever Sharkey showed a tendency to that style of milling, or he would stand off and box. Wilde should do much better work before he leaves America.

That defeat at Milwaukee, though, may have something to do with changing Wilde's ideas of his own financial value in this country. He received \$11,000. Sharkey took a percentage worth \$3,000. The promoters believed there would be a \$30,000 or \$35,000 house, but \$19,000 was all the real money that trickled through the gate. On the whole, one might be justified in calling Wilde's first appearance here a financial failure, and promoters everywhere are certain to act accordingly.

**It Affects Rivals, Too.**  
The financial failure at Milwaukee is sure to affect Wilde's rivals, too. They will have to come down in their demands. It is said that Joe Lynch wants \$15,000 for ten rounds against Wilde. If he maintains this attitude, he may lose his chance.

Pal Moore, now on his way to England to meet Charlie Ledoux, the French champion, is also filled with wild ideas of his ring value. His figures for a ten-round bout with Wilde are said to be quite as high as Lynch's.

Sharkey's good showing with Wilde may result in his drawing the bout before the International Sporting Club next February in New York. Sharkey is a New Yorker and has thousands of friends there who would like to see him get another crack at the Britisher. Milwaukee promoters do not hesitate in saying Sharkey is the best bantam ever appearing in the Cream City. That was why they matched him with Wilde.

**Have Been Smaller.**  
It is erroneous to claim that Wilde is the smallest champion ever. At least two Americans have achieved titles at less weight than the wee Welshman. They are Jimmy Barry and Johnny Coulson. While Barry does his best work at 104 pounds. Well, that's a bit heavier than Barry's or Coulson's.

Jimmy Barry was asked the other day something about his fighting days and replied:  
"I remember well the weights I made in all my fights. The lowest I ever made was in New Orleans on June 2, 1894, when I fought Jimmy Gorman at 100 pounds. The morning of the bout I weighed only ninety-eight pounds. The heaviest I ever showed, and I was building up, was on April 27, 1907, when I scaled 109½ lbs. Jimmy Anthony, the Australian champion, in San Francisco. I knocked Gorman out in eleven rounds and got the decision over Anthony in twenty."

When Barry met Walter Crost in England, the match was at 104 pounds at 2 o'clock. The Chicagoan weighed in at 103 pounds, and yet gave the Briton such a beating, that he later died.

**Coulson Also Little.**  
Johnny Coulson, another Chicago boxer, was also smaller than Jimmy Wilde, though he weighed 105 pounds when he won the bantam title. He is two inches shorter than Wilde and always gave away height and weight when he entered the ring. The day Coulson won the bantam title, he also seized the flyweight title. On his way to the top of the heap, Coulson weighed but ninety-eight pounds, and defeated many boxers, fully twenty pounds heavier.

When Coulson weighed 106 pounds, he battled Jim Hendrick, of England, who weighed 112½; Frankie Burns, 115 pounds; ringside, Joe Coster and Johnny Daly, both 115-pounders, and many others who scaled as high. Frankie Conley, considered about the toughest of all the little fellows, weighed 119 pounds when he entered the ring with Coulson, who scaled 105 pounds.

Thus, as these figures indicate, Wilde is not the smallest champion in the history of the ring, though he is about the smallest boxer now performing.

American bantams are usually around 113 or 120 pounds. This weight

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## He Was One Cagey Guy, You'll Admit.

A big colored bloke was fighting in Philadelphia the other night and for two rounds took quite a pasting. In the third the work was just as hard, and finally, seeing a right swing coming his way, he ducked, hit the boards and played dead. The referee walked over, pulled the necessary numbers and, after declaring him out, asked:

"What did you quit for, fellah? You wasn't hurt any!"  
The meerschaum-colored gladiator took one sidelong peek at him, rubbed his sore ear and said: "Ah don't tell nobody MAH BUSINESS."

## STRONG OPPONENTS LISTED THIS YEAR

College Quints Open Up and Take on First Class Fives on Basketball Schedules.

College basketball teams of the District, which include Georgetown, George Washington, Catholic University, and Gallaudet, have gone out after first-class teams this season and can look for strenuous times on the floor, beginning next week.

Aside from the purely local aspect of the games in which the teams play each other, there appears to be the policy of taking a chance on stronger teams. Many times in the past the inability of schedule Northern college teams on the floor has been the result of either "playing it safe" or failing to land games because of financial difficulties.

This year the various college quints have gone out after and have gotten first-class teams on the schedule which argues for a season of real competition.

Two or three really strong teams have been listed by the local quints. Georgetown, during the season, will take on West Virginia Wesleyan, North Carolina, Marietta, the New York Aggie Five, Yale and St. John's College, of Brooklyn in addition to the other sectional engagements with teams in this vicinity.

Catholic University has listed the Crescent Athletic Club, Lafayette, the Navy, Bucknell, North Carolina, Davis and Elkins and Virginia Poly in addition to the other games with the local colleges.

George Washington's list of games is the most pretentious in years. Aside from the regularly scheduled battles with Georgetown, Catholic University, Gallaudet and others around here, the Hatchettes will take on Bucknell, the Navy, Lafayette, Muhlenberg, Lehigh and Swarthmore.

Gallaudet takes on Drexel Institute, of Philadelphia, Johns Hopkins and Virginia in addition to its games with Catholic University and George Washington and the other local institutions. Gallaudet, in addition will stage a game here during the holidays with the Silent A. C. of Hartford, Conn. a team of deaf-mutes which has gained considerable standing in the country.

Taken all together the basketball fans here will be offered a season of first-class competition. Catholic University will open up its gymnasium for games shortly. The new enclosure surpasses anything in this section with the possible exception of the Washington and Lee gymnasium, at Lexington, Va.

The Brooklanders expect to educate the public toward coming out to see the games and will probably stage doubleheaders which will include games for the freshmen five.

While the District Intercollegiate Basketball League, composed of G. U. G. W. U., Maryland State and Gallaudet, has gone on its way, there appears to be ample opportunity for plenty of excitement on the floor during the season just about to blossom out.

## BECKETT WILL DEFEND BRITISH RING HONORS

Joe Beckett is still heavyweight champion of England (if that means anything), notwithstanding his defeat at the hands of Georges Carpentier. According to rules, regulations and everything like that, only an Englishman can hold a championship in Johnny Bull's tight little isle.

Carpentier, though, should be glad of those rules, as a man wins the heavyweight title in England he becomes a member of the Fromage de Brel Club. Beckett, Godard, Wells, Molr and Hague. In the parlance of the ring, "what a fine lot of bums."

Anyway, Beckett announces that he is ready and willing to defend his crown against all comers. His next bout will take place in Royal Albert Hall, on December 26 (Boxing Day). Joe will box Dick Smith in the first of three twenty-round contests to be staged by Redmond Barry, Memphis Pal Moore and Charley Ledoux, the latter the French bantamweight champion, furnish the wind-up. Johnny Griffith, the Akron (Ohio) welterweight, meets Francis Charles, another French champion in the other twenty-round event.

## SUTHERLAND SIGNS.

EASTON, Pa., Dec. 9.—Dr. "Joek" Sutherland has signed a contract to coach Lafayette's football eleven for 1920 and 1921. Fred ("Pud") Seidl, his assistant, will remain in the same capacity. Both were stars of the Pittsburgh University team before coming here.

## SIGNS OF WARFARE ARE PASSING FAST

Ban Johnson and His "Faithful Five" Will Attend New York Meeting.

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—Signs of peace are seen in the situation facing the American League with the announcement that Ban Johnson has decided to bring his "faithful magnates" here for tomorrow's annual meeting called by the board of directors. It is believed that a compromise between the warring factions will be reached before the magnates leave town.

Johnson and his "faithful magnates" held a secret meeting in Chicago yesterday, and probably acting upon legal advice, announced that they would certainly cause no end of litigation.

Charlie Comiskey, as head of the board of directors, does not intend to

allow any steam roller tactics by the Johnson forces. Johnson will not be permitted to overthrow the present board of directors and then annul all acts to date. If he makes the attempt, the legal fight will be continued.

"We are firm on one point," said Colonel Huston today, "and don't intend to retreat an inch. That is, that no single individual again can dominate this league and usurp the powers that Johnson did before the Mays case brought this condition to the surface. This case has shown us that we have a constitution, and hereafter we insist that that constitution be obeyed to the letter. Hereafter our board of directors must be a board of directors."

"If Johnson and his henchmen are coming to New York intending to put over anything on us, they'll run into a hornet's nest."

The National League was called to order today. President Heydler said that he expected the session would continue for several days.

## TENNIS STAR COMES.

Miss Suzanne Lenglen, the wonderful little French girl star with the racquet, is coming to America next season to show her skill. She will be expected about May or June and will play such American tennis stars as Miss Mary Browne, Mrs. George W. Wrightman, Mrs. Thomas C. Bundy, and Mrs. Franklin I. Mallory.

## Tom O'Rourke Comes in With an Offer.

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—Tom O'Rourke, manager of Fred Fulton, is a bidder for the Carpentier-Dempsey fight. He has announced he will put up \$195,000, to be split 60-40, with the provision that the winner will meet Fulton within nine months after the fight.

## GEORGE GIBSON LEADS PITTSBURGH PIRATES

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 9.—George Gibson, former star backstop of the Pittsburgh club, is to manage the Pirates next season, succeeding Hugo Besdek. The latter has decided to devote all his attention to athletics at Penn State. Gibson is due in New York today for a conference with Barney Dreyfuss. Last year he managed the Toronto club in the International League.

## STATE WILL LOSE BUT ONE PLAYER

Bobby Knode Only Regular Expected to Be Missing in Football Campaign.

Maryland State College is looking forward to next year in football with a great deal of interest. It develops that the Staters with four Maryland championships in a row are unusually well fortified for next season.

When all the noses were counted up at College Park a short time ago in seeing just how things stood for the 1920 football campaign, Coach H. C. Byrd went the rounds a couple of times and counted out Bobby Knode, this year's captain, as the only player who would be missing when the frost hit the pumpkin next year. Knode, who has played quarter for

four years, is finishing up next year. His absence will be felt, not only in football but in baseball as well. Of ends next year State will have Rigan, Eppley, Lewis, Bushnell and Masten. A formidable group. Tackles expected back are Mackert, Nesbitt, Edell and Brewer. Guard coming out for the campaign next year will be Moore, Sullivan, Smith and Umberger.

Bailey, Myers and Brunner, centers of last season, will all be back. Behind the line Besley, Durrall, Ogbert, Macdonald, Greves and Pughnuel will all be out for the team. State got going in first-class style last fall. The State title was won with comparative ease. It is expected that several changes will be made in the schedule.

Victories over Hopkins, Virginia and Western Maryland were the high lights. Swarthmore, West Virginia and Yale were held to creditable scores.

## BROWN LOSES SEVEN

PROVIDENCE, Dec. 9.—Brown University will lose but seven of the twenty-first string football players of this year's team. These are Captain Nicholas, Lathrop, and Bruce, guard; Sinclair, tackle; Brier, end; Oulter, quarterback, and Jemall, halfback. Outside of the guard positions veteran players will be available for all of these berths.

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